

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A PC card having a connection plug connectable to an information processing apparatus, and a card connector through which an additional card can be connected, wherein multiple capabilities are added to said information processing apparatus by connecting said PC card to said information processing apparatus, said PC card comprising:
- 5 a communication control unit configured to control communication between said information processing apparatus and a function control unit of said PC card, and communication between said information processing apparatus and a function control unit of said additional card; and
- 10 an area builder unit configured to analyze a card information structure of said additional card, build a global card information structure from the card information structure of said additional card together with a card information structure of said PC card, analyze card configuration information of said additional card, and build a global register area from the card configuration information of said additional card together with a card configuration information of said PC card.
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2. The PC card as claimed in claim 1 further comprising an address control unit configured to switch address operations in order that a functional register group of said PC card is located in an I/O area of said PC card when said information processing apparatus outputs an I/O area control signal for accessing the function of said PC card, and that a functional register group of said additional card is located in the I/O area of said PC card when said information processing apparatus outputs an I/O area control signal for accessing the function of said additional card.
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3. The PC card as claimed in claim 1 further comprising an interrupt request control unit that, when an interrupt request is received from the function control unit of said PC card or the function control unit of said additional card, sets information about said interrupt request in an interrupt cause
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register.

4. The PC card as claimed in claim 1 wherein the function control unit of said PC card is provided with a wireless LAN communication capability, and

the function control unit of said additional card is provided with a PHS communication capability.

5. A method of controlling a PC card having a connection plug connectable to an information processing apparatus, and a card connector through which an additional card can be connected, wherein multiple capabilities are added to said information processing apparatus by connecting said PC card to said information processing apparatus, said method of controlling the PC card comprising:

a step of controlling communication between said information processing apparatus and a function control unit of said PC card, and communication between said information processing apparatus and a function control unit of said additional card; and

a step of analyzing a card information structure of said additional card, building a global card information from the card information structure of said additional card together with a card information structure of said PC card, analyzing card configuration information of said additional card, and building a global register area from the card configuration information of said additional card together with a card configuration information of said PC card.

6. The method of controlling a PC card as claimed in claim 5 further comprising a step of switching address operations in order that a functional register group of said PC card is located in an I/O area of said PC card when said information processing apparatus outputs an I/O area control signal for accessing the function of said PC card, and that a functional register group of said additional card is located in the I/O area of said PC card when said information processing apparatus outputs an I/O area control signal for accessing the function of said additional card.

7. The method of controlling a PC card as claimed in claim 5
further comprising a step of, when an interrupt request is
received from the function control unit of said PC card or the
5 function control unit of said additional card, setting
information about said interrupt request in an interrupt cause
register.